



NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Ground Water Quality Bureau

1190 Saint Francis Drive / PO Box 5469

Santa Fe, NM 87502-5469

Phone (505) 827-2900 Fax (505) 827-2965

www.env.nm.gov



Draft: September 23, 2020

GROUND WATER QUALITY BUREAU

DISCHARGE PERMIT

Issued under 20.6.2 NMAC

Facility Name: City of Jal - Sludge and Wastewater Surface Disposal Site
Discharge Permit Number: DP-1802
Facility Location: 1000 North Third Street
Jal, NM

County: Lea

Permittee: Matt White, City Manager
Mailing Address: City of Jal
P.O. Box 340
Jal, NM 88252

Facility Contact: Van Myrick, Public Works Director/Operator
Telephone Number/Email: (575) 441-5965/vanmyrick@cityofjal.us

Permitting Action: Renewal

Permit Issuance Date: DATE
Permit Expiration Date: DATE

NMED Permit Contact: Gerald Knutson
Telephone Number/Email: (505) 660-7189/gerald.knutson@state.nm.us

MICHELLE HUNTER
Chief, Ground Water Quality Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department

Date

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	INTRODUCTION	2
II.	FINDINGS.....	3
III.	AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE	4
IV.	CONDITIONS	4
	A. OPERATIONAL PLAN	4
	B. MONITORING AND REPORTING	5
	Due Dates for Monitoring Reports	5
	Groundwater Monitoring Conditions.....	5
	C. CONTINGENCY PLAN	6
	D. CLOSURE PLAN.....	7
	Closure Actions with Implementation Deadlines.....	7
	Permanent Facility Closure Conditions	8
	E. GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS	8

ATTACHMENTS

Discharge Permit Summary
New Mexico Environment Department Ground Water Quality Bureau Monitoring Well
Construction and Abandonment Guidelines, Revision 1.1, March 2011

I. INTRODUCTION

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) issues this groundwater discharge permit renewal (Discharge Permit or DP-1802), to the City of Jal (Permittee) pursuant to the New Mexico Water Quality Act (WQA), NMSA 1978 §§74-6-1 through 74-6-17, and the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) Ground and Surface Water Protection Regulations, 20.6.2 NMAC.

NMED's purpose in issuing this Discharge Permit, and in imposing the requirements and conditions specified herein, is to control the discharge of water contaminants from City of Jal-Sludge and Wastewater Surface Disposal Site (Facility) in order to protect groundwater and those segments of surface water gaining from groundwater inflow for present and potential future use as domestic and agricultural water supply and other uses, and to protect public health. It is NMED's determination in issuing this Discharge Permit that the Permittee has met the requirements of Subsection C of 20.6.2.3109 NMAC. The Permittee is responsible for complying with the terms and conditions of this Discharge Permit pursuant to Section 20.6.2.3104 NMAC; failure to do so may result in enforcement action by NMED (20.6.2.1220 NMAC).

Described below are the activities that produce the discharge, the location of the discharge, and the quantity, quality, and flow characteristics.

This Facility stopped receiving sludge and treated wastewater in July 2015 and closure of the Facility (disposal site) was complete in July 2018. The Facility is, at the time of this permit issuance, in post-closure care and consequently this Discharge Permit is primarily for groundwater monitoring. Prior to closure, NMED authorized the Facility to receive and discharge approximately 775,500 gallons of domestic wastewater treatment plant sludge and approximately 5.2 million gallons of treated wastewater to the 17.9-acre surface disposal site. These wastes originated from the City of Jal-Wastewater Treatment Facility's (WWTF's) Holding Impoundments #1 and #2.

The original monitoring well contained insufficient water to effectively monitor groundwater and NMED required the Permittee to install a replacement monitoring well. This Discharge Permit requires the Permittee to properly plug and abandon the original monitoring well.

The Facility is located at 1000 North Third Street, in Jal, in Section 17, Township 25S, Range 37E, Lea County. Groundwater affected by the former discharge is at a depth of approximately 37 feet and had a pre-discharge total dissolved solids (TDS) concentration of approximately 1,065 milligrams per liter.

NMED issued the original Discharge Permit to the Permittee on September 3, 2013. The application (i.e., discharge plan) consists of the materials submitted by the Permittee dated

January 8, 2020 and materials contained in the administrative record prior to issuance of this Discharge Permit.

NMED reserves the right to require a Discharge Permit modification in the event NMED determines that the Permittee is or may be violating, or is likely to violate in the future, the requirements of 20.6.2 NMAC or the standards of Section 20.6.2.3103 NMAC. NMED reserves this right pursuant to Section 20.6.2.3109 NMAC. An NMED requirement to modify the Discharge Permit may result from a determination by the department that structural controls and/or management practices approved under this Discharge Permit are insufficiently protective of groundwater quality and human health. NMED reserves the right to require the Permittee implement abatement of water pollution and remediate groundwater quality.

NMED issuance of this Discharge Permit does not relieve the Permittee of the responsibility to comply with the WQA, WQCC Regulations, and any other applicable federal, state and/or local laws and regulations, such as zoning requirements and nuisance ordinances.

This Discharge Permit may use the following acronyms and abbreviations.

Abbreviation	Explanation	Abbreviation	Explanation
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations	NMSA	New Mexico Statutes Annotated
Cl	chloride	NO ₃ -N	nitrate-nitrogen
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency	QA/QC	Quality Assurance/Quality Control
gpd	gallons per day	TDS	total dissolved solids
mg/L	milligrams per liter	TKN	total Kjeldahl nitrogen
mL	milliliters	WQA	New Mexico Water Quality Act
NMAC	New Mexico Administrative Code	WQCC	Water Quality Control Commission
NMED	New Mexico Environment Department	WWTF	Wastewater Treatment Facility

II. FINDINGS

In issuing this Discharge Permit, NMED finds the following.

1. The Permittee is discharging effluent or leachate from the Facility so that such effluent or leachate may move into groundwater of the State of New Mexico that has an existing concentration of 10,000 mg/L or less of TDS, within the meaning of Subsection A of 20.6.2.3101 NMAC, without exceeding standards of 20.6.2.3103 NMAC for any water contaminant.

2. This Discharge Permit allows the Permittee to discharge effluent or leachate from the Facility directly or indirectly into groundwater pursuant to this Discharge Permit and Sections 20.6.2.3000 through 20.6.2.3114 NMAC.
3. The discharge from the Facility is not subject to any of the exemptions of Section 20.6.2.3105 NMAC.

III. AUTHORIZATION

The Permittee is responsible for ensuring that groundwater monitoring authorized by this Discharge Permit is consistent with the terms and conditions herein pursuant to 20.6.2.3104 NMAC.

The Facility ceased discharging domestic wastewater treatment facility sludge and treated wastewater from the City of Jal - WWTF's Holding Impoundments #1 and #2 in July 2015. This was a one-time only discharge. The Permittee completed the closure requirements for the Facility (disposal site) as per the Discharge Permit, DP-1802, issued September 3, 2013 in July 2018.

[20.6.2.3104 NMAC, Subsection C of 20.6.2.3106 NMAC, Subsection D of 20.6.2.3109 NMAC]

IV. CONDITIONS

NMED issues this Discharge Permit for the monitoring of groundwater subject to the following conditions.

A. OPERATIONAL PLAN

#	Terms and Conditions
1.	The Permittee shall implement the following operational plan to ensure compliance with Title 20, Chapter 6, Parts 2 and 4 NMAC. [Subsection C of 20.6.2.3109 NMAC]
2.	The Permittee shall operate in a manner that does not violate standards and requirements of Sections 20.6.2.3101 and 20.6.2.3103 NMAC. [20.6.2.3101 NMAC, 20.6.2.3103 NMAC, Subsection C of 20.6.2.3109 NMAC]

B. MONITORING AND REPORTING

#	Terms and Conditions
3.	<p>The Permittee shall conduct the following monitoring, reporting, and other requirements listed below in accordance with the monitoring requirements of this Discharge Permit.</p> <p>[Subsection A of 20.6.2.3107 NMAC, Subsection C of 20.6.2.3109 NMAC]</p>
4.	<p>METHODOLOGY - Unless otherwise specified by this Discharge Permit, or approved in writing by NMED, the Permittee shall use sampling and analytical techniques that conform with the references listed in Subsection B of 20.6.2.3107 NMAC.</p> <p>[Subsection B of 20.6.2.3107 NMAC]</p>
5.	<p>Quarterly monitoring: The Permittee shall perform monitoring during the following periods and shall submit quarterly reports to NMED by the following due dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 1st through March 31st – due by May 1st; • April 1st through June 30th – due by August 1st; • July 1st through September 30th – due by November 1st; and • October 1st through December 31st – due by February 1st. <p>[Subsection A of 20.6.2.3107 NMAC]</p>

Groundwater Monitoring Conditions

#	Terms and Conditions
6.	<p>The Permittee shall perform quarterly groundwater sampling in groundwater monitoring well MW-S5A and analyze the samples for total Kjeldahl nitrogen (TKN), nitrate-nitrogen (NO₃-N), TDS, chloride (Cl), and arsenic (As).</p> <p>The Permittee shall perform groundwater sample collection, preservation, transportation, and analysis according to the following procedures.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Measure the depth-to-most-shallow groundwater from the top of the well casing to the nearest hundredth of a foot. Purge three well volumes of water from the well prior to sample collection. Obtain samples from the well for analysis. Properly prepare, preserve, and transport samples. Analyze samples in accordance with the methods authorized in this Discharge Permit.

#	Terms and Conditions
	<p>The Permittee shall submit the depth-to-most-shallow groundwater measurements and analytical results, including the laboratory QA/QC summary report, to NMED in the subsequent quarterly monitoring report.</p> <p>[Subsection A of 20.6.2.3107 NMAC]</p>
7.	<p>NMED shall have the option to perform a downhole inspection of the groundwater monitoring well identified in this Discharge Permit. NMED shall establish the inspection date and provide at least a 60-day notice to the Permittee by certified mail. The Permittee shall remove any existing dedicated pump at least 48 hours prior to NMED inspection to allow adequate settling time of sediment agitated from pump removal.</p> <p>Should the Permittee decide to install a pump in a monitoring well without a dedicated pump, the Permittee shall notify NMED at least 90 days prior to pump installation so that NMED can schedule a downhole well inspection(s) prior to pump placement.</p> <p>[Subsections A and D of 20.6.2.3107 NMAC]</p>

C. CONTINGENCY PLAN

#	Terms and Conditions
8.	<p>In the event that groundwater monitoring indicates that groundwater exceeds a standard identified in Section 20.6.2.3103 NMAC, the Permittee shall collect a confirmatory sample from the monitoring well within 15 days of receipt of the initial sampling results to confirm the initial sampling results.</p> <p>Once this groundwater exceedance response condition is invoked whether during the term of this Discharge Permit or after the term of this Discharge Permit, this condition shall apply until the Permittee has fulfilled the requirements of this condition and groundwater monitoring confirms for a minimum of eight (8) consecutive quarterly samples that groundwater does not exceed the standards of Section 20.6.2.3103 NMAC.</p> <p>Violation of the groundwater standard beyond 180 days after the confirmation of groundwater contamination may cause NMED to require the Permittee to abate water pollution consistent with the requirements and provisions of Section 20.6.2.4101, Section 20.6.2.4103, Subsections C and E of 20.6.2.4106, Section 20.6.2.4107, Section 20.6.2.4108, and Section 20.6.2.4112 NMAC.</p> <p>[Subsection A of 20.6.2.3107 NMAC, Subsection E of 20.6.2.3109 NMAC]</p>

#	Terms and Conditions
9.	<p>In the event that information available to NMED indicates that the well is not constructed in a manner consistent with the attachment titled (Monitoring Well Guidance); contains insufficient water to effectively monitor groundwater quality; or is otherwise not completed in a manner that is protective of groundwater quality, the Permittee shall install a replacement well within 120 days following notification from NMED.</p> <p>The Permittee shall install the replacement well at a location approved by NMED prior to installation and shall complete the replacement well in accordance with the attachment Monitoring Well Guidance. The Permittee shall submit well construction and lithologic logs to NMED within 60 days following well completion.</p> <p>The Permittee shall properly plug and abandon the monitoring well requiring replacement upon completion of the replacement monitoring well. The Permittee shall complete the well plugging and abandonment, and shall document the abandonment procedures, in accordance with the attachment Monitoring Well Guidance and all applicable local, state, and federal regulations. The Permittee shall submit a copy of the well abandonment documentation to NMED within 60 days following the replacement well completion.</p> <p>[Subsection A of 20.6.2.3107 NMAC]</p>
10.	<p>In the event that NMED or the Permittee identifies any failures of the groundwater monitoring plan, i.e., the application, or this Discharge Permit not specifically noted herein, NMED may require the Permittee to submit a Corrective Action Plan and a schedule for completion of corrective actions to address the failure(s). Additionally, NMED may require a discharge permit modification to achieve compliance with 20.6.2 NMAC.</p> <p>[Subsection A of 20.6.2.3107 NMAC, Subsection E of 20.6.2.3109 NMAC]</p>

D. CLOSURE PLAN

Closure Actions with Implementation Deadlines

#	Terms and Conditions
11.	<p>Within 180 days following the issuance date of this Discharge Permit (by DATE), the Permittee shall properly plug and abandon monitoring well MW-S5.</p> <p>The Permittee shall abandon the monitoring well in accordance with the Monitoring Well Guidelines, and all applicable local, state, and federal regulations, including 19.27.4 NMAC, and so that the replacement well is not adversely affected.</p>

#	Terms and Conditions
	<p>The Permittee shall submit documentation to NMED describing the well abandonment procedures performed in accordance with the above-mentioned Guidelines. The Permittee shall submit the well abandonment documentation to NMED within 60 days of completion of well plugging activities.</p> <p>[Subsection A of 20.6.2.3107 NMAC, 19.27.4 NMAC]</p>

Permanent Facility Closure Conditions

#	Terms and Conditions
12.	<p>The Permittee shall continue groundwater monitoring until the Permittee meets the requirements of this condition and groundwater monitoring confirms for a minimum of eight consecutive quarterly groundwater sampling events that groundwater does not exceed the standards of Section 20.6.2.3103 NMAC. This period is referred to as “post-closure”.</p> <p>If at any time monitoring results show an exceedance of a groundwater quality standard in Section 20.6.2.3103 NMAC, the Permittee shall implement the Contingency Plan required by this Discharge Permit.</p> <p>Following notification from NMED that the Permittee may cease post-closure monitoring, the Permittee shall plug and abandon the monitoring well(s) in accordance with the attached Monitoring Well Guidance.</p> <p>When the Permittee has met all closure and post-closure requirements and verified appropriate actions with date stamped photographic evidence or an associated NMED inspection, the Permittee may submit to NMED a written request, including photographic evidence, for termination of the Discharge Permit.</p> <p>[Subsection A of 20.6.2.3107 NMAC, Subsection D of 20.6.2.4103 NMAC, 40 CFR Part 503]</p>

E. GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

#	Terms and Conditions
13.	<p>RECORD KEEPING - The Permittee shall maintain a written record of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information and data used to complete the application for this Discharge Permit;• Information, data, and documents demonstrating completion of closure activities.

#	Terms and Conditions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copies of inspection and monitoring reports completed and/or submitted to NMED pursuant to this Discharge Permit; • Groundwater quality data collected pursuant to this Discharge Permit; • Copies of construction records (well log) for all sampled groundwater monitoring wells pursuant to this Discharge Permit; • The maintenance, repair, replacement, or calibration of any monitoring equipment required by this Discharge Permit; and • Data and information related to field measurements, sampling, and analysis conducted pursuant to this Discharge Permit, including the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the dates, locations, and times of sampling or field measurements; ○ the name and job title of the individuals who performed each sample collection or field measurement; ○ the sample analysis date of each sample; ○ the name and address of the laboratory, and the name of the signatory authority for the laboratory analysis; ○ the analytical technique or method used to analyze each sample or collect each field measurement; ○ the results of each analysis or field measurement, including raw data; ○ the results of any split, spiked, duplicate, or repeat sample; and ○ a copy of the laboratory analysis chain-of-custody as well as a description of the quality assurance and quality control procedures used. <p>The Permittee shall maintain the written record at a location accessible to NMED during a Facility inspection for a lifetime of the Discharge Permit. The Permittee shall make the record available to the department upon request.</p> <p>[Subsections A and D of 20.6.2.3107 NMAC]</p>
14.	<p>SUBMITTALS - The Permittee shall submit both a paper copy and an electronic copy of all notification and reporting documents required by this Discharge Permit, e.g., monitoring reports. The paper and electronic documents shall be submitted to the NMED Permit Contact identified on the Permit cover page.</p> <p>[Subsection A of 20.6.2.3107 NMAC]</p>
15.	<p>INSPECTION and ENTRY - The Permittee shall allow NMED to inspect the Facility and its operations that are subject to this Discharge Permit and the WQCC regulations. NMED may, upon presentation of proper credentials, enter at reasonable times upon or through any premises in which a water contaminant source is located or in which any maintained records required by this Discharge Permit, the regulations of the federal government, or the WQCC are located.</p>

#	Terms and Conditions
	<p>The Permittee shall allow NMED to have access to and reproduce for their use any copy of the records, and to perform assessments, sampling or monitoring during an inspection for the purpose of evaluating compliance with this Discharge Permit and the WQCC regulations.</p> <p>No person shall construe anything in this Discharge Permit as limiting in any way the inspection and entry authority of NMED under the WQA, the WQCC Regulations, or any other local, state, or federal regulations.</p> <p>[Subsection D of 20.6.2.3107 NMAC, NMSA 1978, §§ 74-6-9.B and 74-6-9.E]</p>
16.	<p>DUTY to PROVIDE INFORMATION - The Permittee shall, upon NMED's request, allow for NMED's inspection/duplication of records required by this Discharge Permit, and/or furnish to NMED copies of such records.</p> <p>[Subsection D of 20.6.2.3107 NMAC]</p>
17.	<p>CIVIL PENALTIES - Any violation of the requirements and conditions of this Discharge Permit, including any failure to allow NMED staff to enter and inspect records or facilities, or any refusal or failure to provide NMED with records or information, may subject the Permittee to a civil enforcement action. Pursuant to WQA 74-6-10(A) and (B), such action may include a compliance order requiring compliance immediately or in a specified time, assessing a civil penalty, modifying or terminating the Discharge Permit, or any combination of the foregoing; or an action in district court seeking injunctive relief, civil penalties, or both. Pursuant to WQA 74-6-10(C) and 74-6-10.1, civil penalties of up to \$15,000 per day of noncompliance may be assessed for each violation of the WQA 74-6-5, the WQCC Regulations, or this Discharge Permit, and civil penalties of up to \$10,000 per day of noncompliance may be assessed for each violation of any other provision of the WQA, or any regulation, standard, or order adopted pursuant to such other provision. In any action to enforce this Discharge Permit, the Permittee waives any objection to the admissibility as evidence of any data generated pursuant to this Discharge Permit.</p> <p>[20.6.2.1220 NMAC, NMSA 1978, §§ 74-6-10 and 74-6-10.1]</p>
18.	<p>CRIMINAL PENALTIES - No person shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make any false material statement, representation, certification, or omission of material fact in an application, record, report, plan, or other document filed, submitted, or maintained under the WQA; • Falsify, tamper with, or render inaccurate any monitoring device, method, or record maintained under the WQA; or • Fail to monitor, sample, or report as required by a permit issued pursuant to a state or federal law or regulation.

#	Terms and Conditions
	<p>Any person who knowingly violates or knowingly causes or allows another person to violate the requirements of this condition is guilty of a fourth-degree felony and shall be sentenced in accordance with the provisions of NMSA 1978, § 31-18-15. Any person who is convicted of a second or subsequent violation of the requirements of this condition is guilty of a third-degree felony and shall be sentenced in accordance with the provisions of NMSA 1978, § 31-18-15. Any person who knowingly violates the requirements of this condition or knowingly causes another person to violate the requirements of this condition and thereby causes a substantial adverse environmental impact is guilty of a third-degree felony and shall be sentenced in accordance with the provisions of NMSA 1978, § 31-18-15. Any person who knowingly violates the requirements of this condition and knows at the time of the violation that he is creating a substantial danger of death or serious bodily injury to any other person is guilty of a second degree felony and shall be sentenced in accordance with the provisions of NMSA 1978, § 31-18-15.</p> <p>[20.6.2.1220 NMAC, NMSA 1978, §§ 74-6-10.2.A through 74-6-10.2.F]</p>
19.	<p>COMPLIANCE with OTHER LAWS - Nothing in this Discharge Permit shall be construed in any way as relieving the Permittee of the obligation to comply with any other applicable federal, state, and/or local laws, regulations, zoning requirements, nuisance ordinances, permits, or orders.</p> <p>[NMSA 1978, § 74-6-5.L]</p>
20.	<p>RIGHT to APPEAL - The Permittee may file a petition for review before the WQCC on this Discharge Permit. Such petition shall be in writing to the WQCC within thirty days of the receipt of postal notice of this Discharge Permit and shall include a statement of the issues raised and the relief sought. Unless the Permittee files a timely petition for review, the decision of NMED shall be final and not subject to judicial review.</p> <p>[20.6.2.3112 NMAC, NMSA 1978, § 74-6-5.O]</p>
21.	<p>TRANSFER of DISCHARGE PERMIT - Prior to the transfer of any ownership, control, or possession of this Facility or any portion thereof, the Permittee shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notify the proposed transferee in writing of the existence of this Discharge Permit; • Include a copy of this Discharge Permit with the notice; and • Deliver or send by certified mail to NMED a copy of the notification and proof that the proposed transferee has received such notification. <p>The Permittee shall continue to be responsible for any discharge from the Facility, until both ownership and possession of the Facility have been transferred to the transferee.</p>

#	Terms and Conditions
	[20.6.2.3111 NMAC]
22.	<p>PERMIT FEES – The Permittee shall be aware that the payment of permit fees is due at the time of Discharge Permit approval. The Permittee may pay the permit fees in a single payment or they may pay the fee in equal installments on a yearly basis over the term of the Discharge Permit. The Permittee shall remit single payments to NMED no later than 30 days after the Discharge Permit issuance date. The Permittee shall remit initial installment payments to NMED no later than 30 days after the Discharge Permit issuance date; with subsequent installment payments remitted to NMED no later than the anniversary of the Discharge Permit issuance date.</p> <p>Permit fees are associated with <u>issuance</u> of this Discharge Permit. No person shall construe anything in this Discharge Permit as relieving the Permittee of the obligation to pay all permit fees assessed by NMED. A Permittee that ceases discharging or does not commence discharging from the Facility during the term of the Discharge Permit shall pay all permit fees assessed by NMED. NMED shall suspend or terminate an approved Discharge Permit if the Permittee fails to remit an installment payment by its due date.</p> <p>[Subsection F of 20.6.2.3114 NMAC, NMSA 1978, § 74-6-5.K]</p>